

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/044,964

Applicant(s)

OGAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Sheela Rao

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to 27 April 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-10, renumbered 1-7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/814,871.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date see attached
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed April 27, 2005 has been entered and considered. Originally presented claims 1-3 have been cancelled and claims 4-10 are newly added.
2. Claims 4-10 are pending and presented for examination.
3. Attached herewith are Information Disclosure Statements, form PTO-1449, filed on January 15, 2002, April 8, 2002, and December 17, 2003. Examiner is unable to find signed copies of these documents within the IFW system and therefore is resending these documents so as to establish a clear record.

Response to Amendment

4. The rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, is withdrawn in light of the cancellation of these claims.
5. The rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC §102 (b) as being anticipated by Tsutsui et al, (USPN 6,009,545) is withdrawn in light of the amendments made.
6. Claims 4-10 are allowed. The claims have been renumbered 1-7.

Examiner's Amendment

7. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Blumenthal on Tuesday, June 07, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claims 8 and 9, at line 1, delete "system" and insert — method ---.

In the specification, on page 1, line 1 of the first paragraph, after 'division of' delete "Application No. 09/814,871, filed March 23, 2001, now pending" and insert — US Patent 6,349,240 B2, issued February 19, 2002 —.

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 4-10 disclose a method for a manufacturing system that produces semiconductor devices. The method allows a manufacturing system to test an semiconductor chip and/or device before and after assembly and records the position of the chip on the wafer. This position information is then further used for estimating the location or cause of failure. The combination of these limitations is not taught or fairly suggested by the prior arts of record. The foregoing limitations of instant claims 4-10 in combination with the other elements and features of the instant invention are not taught, disclosed, or fairly suggested by the prior arts of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sheela Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-3751. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard, can be reached on (571) 272-3749. The fax number for the organization where this application or any proceeding papers is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

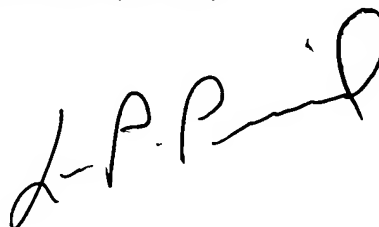
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. It should be noted that status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see

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<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should any questions arise regarding access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sheela S. Rao
June 7, 2005



LEO PICARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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